

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00363 161702Z

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-10 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 ERDA-07 FEAE-00 FMC-02 TRSE-00
H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
SAL-01 /143 W

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R 161614Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8823

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS DUBLIN 363

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS EEC EI

SUBJECT: FISHERIES: GOI ANNOUNCES UNILATERAL MEASURES

REF. DUBLIN 296

1. IRISH MINISTER FOR FISHERIES PADDY DONEGAN ANNOUNCED IN
BRUSSELS FEBRUARY 15 THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS INTRODUCING UNILATERAL
MEASURES WHICH, IN EFFECT, ARE THE FIRST STEP TOWARD ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE 50-MILE EXCLUSIVE FISHERIES ZONE THAT THE GOI HAS BEEN
SEEKING. DONEGAN TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE THAT AS FROM MARCH 1
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PAGE 02 DUBLIN 00363 161702Z

THE IRISH GOVERNMENT WILL BAN ALL BOATS OVER 110 FEET AND
EXCEEDING 1,100 HORSE POWER FROM FISHING OFF THE IRISH COAST.
SUCH VESSELS ARE TO BE TOTALLY EXCLUDED WITHIN 50 MILES OF
THE COAST BUT AT OTHER POINTS THEY WILL HAVE TO REMAIN AS FAR AS
100 MILES FROM THE SHORE. DONEGAN ADDED THAT THE GOI WILL CONTINUE
TO PRESS ITS CASE FOR A LONG-TERM 50-MILE EXCLUSIVE FISHERIES ZONE
AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE COMMUNITIES FISHERIES POLICY. ACCORDING

TO PRESS REPORTS IN DUBLIN, THERE WAS AN ANGRY REACTION AMONG OTHER NATIONAL DELEGATIONS TO THE MEETING IN BRUSSELS. IT WAS ALSO REPORTED THAT CONSIDERATION WAS BEING TAKING LEGAL ACTION AGAINST IRELAND ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE UNILATERAL MEASURES WOULD IN PRINCIPLE VIOLATE THE TREATY OF ACCESSION WHICH PROVIDES ACCESS FOR CONTINENTAL BOATS TO 12 AND 6 MILES FROM THE IRISH COAST.

2. UPON RETURN TO DUBLIN DONEGAN TOLD IRISH JOURNALISTS THAT THE GOI IS NOW ATTEMPTING TO LEASE TWO ADDITIONAL FISHERIES PROTECTION VESSELS AND PERHAPS ONE CONTROL AIRCRAFT. HE ADDED THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE IS ALREADY WORKING OUT DETAILED PLANS TO POLICE THE AREA AND NOTED THAT THE NEW ZONE CONTAINS AS MUCH AS 50,000 SQ. MILES OF SEA. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE MAJORITY OF CONTINENTAL TRAWLERS WORKING AROUND THE IRISH COAST ARE FRENCH BUT MORE THAN 80 PERCENT OF THESE BOATS ARE LESS THAN 110 FT. LONG. THOSE PRINCIPALLY AFFECTED BY THE UNILATERAL ACTION REPORTEDLY WILL BE THE DUTCH AND WEST GERMAN VESSELS. DONEGAN APPARENTLY EXPECTS THE NEW IRISH REGULATIONS TO BE IN EFFECT FOR A LONG TIME SINCE HE STATED THAT HE DOUBTED THAT MUCH FURTHER PROGRESS WOULD BE MADE ON A PERMANENT EEC FISHERIES POLICY THIS YEAR. CURLEY

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